

touch panel. Circuit 200 is called a "control and trigger circuit" which is apparently not the subject of any of the independent claims in those words. At least in the alternative, as shown above, applicant has shown many combinations/sub-combinations which may provide some guidance for proper selection of a "Single Species".

Applicant acknowledges that the Examiner is correct that Applicant's election is properly to the combined elements at block level as shown in Fig. 1. Accordingly, Applicant hereby re-states Applicant's election of the species of Fig. 1 to the combined elements shown in Fig. 1. However, as Applicant's attorney explained to Examiners A. Henry and J. Ballato in several previous telephone conferences, each of independent Claims 1, 69, 72, 76, 87, 98, 100, 111, 113 and 114 reads on Fig. 1.

For example, with respect to Claim 1, Fig. 1 shows first and second terminals (e.g., terminals 01 and 02) in conjunction with a semiconductor switch (e.g., semiconductor switch 1) and a control circuit (e.g., various elements of trigger and control circuit 200). With respect to Claim 69, for example, Fig. 1 shows a multi-point control system including a 2-terminal solid state electrical switch (e.g., semiconductor switch 1), an optocoupler (e.g., optocoupler 22 or 23) and a signal bus for coupling devices (e.g., signal bus 400 or 410). With respect to Claim 72, for example, Fig. 1 shows an initialization circuit (e.g., initialization circuit 15). With respect to Claim 76, for example, Fig. 1 shows a semiconductor switch (e.g., semiconductor switch 1) coupled serially to an electrical load (e.g., electrical load 2) having a control terminal (e.g., control terminal 82) and a control circuit for generating a control signal on the control terminal (e.g., various elements of trigger and control circuit 200). With respect to Claim 98, for example, Fig. 1 shows a circuit (e.g., touch panel 17 and associated circuits) which detects a resistance, a capacitance and an inductance of an external agent and provides a gain circuit (e.g., gain circuit 11) to provide an output signal. With respect to Claim 100, for example, Fig. 1 shows a semiconductor switch

(e.g., semiconductor switch 1), a control circuit (e.g., state memory and capacitive trigger circuit 12), a current detector (e.g., current detector 5) and a circuit including a rectifier and a threshold circuit (e.g., over-current signal processing circuit 16). With respect to Claim 111, for example, Fig. 1 shows a semiconductor switch (e.g., semiconductor switch 1) coupled in series with a load (e.g., load 2), a rectifier (e.g., SCR-controlled bridge 8), a first capacitor (e.g., state memory and capacitive triggering circuit 12), and an initialization circuit (e.g., initialization circuit 16). With respect to Claim 113, for example, Fig. 1 shows a semiconductor switch (e.g., semiconductor switch 1) and a feedback circuit (e.g., circuit comprising current detector 5 and overcurrent signal processing circuit 16). With respect to Claim 114, for example, Fig. 1 shows a touch panel (e.g., touch panel 17) and a sensing circuit (e.g., gain circuit 11 and associated circuits, such as limiter circuit 18 and filter circuit 28).


For the above reasons, Applicant's election of the species in Fig. 1 properly results in electing Claims 1-114 for further prosecution. If the Examiner has any question regarding the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicants at 408-453-9200.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on February 1, 2001.


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